

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

CHILCOTT *ag*

LUND *Btl*

THOMPSON *at*

TAYLOR (Clerk & Recorder)

Date.....July 24, 2006

Members Present.....Commissioner Betty Lund and Commissioner Alan Thompson

Minutes: Glenda Wiles

The Board met with Road Supervisor David Ohnstad in regard to the award of the ACP overlays. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to award the asphalt overlays to Helena Sand and Gravel of Hamilton in the amount of \$396,336.00. Commissioner Lund seconded the motion and all voted "aye". The Board also concurred to utilize the Capital Improvement District account balances for these projects in 2006. David indicated there will also be some prep materials such as culvert replacement and leveling that will be required prior to the asphalt lay.

In other business the Board met with Mike Journee and Jim Gill of the Bitterroot Resort located just south of Lolo, Montana, in Missoula County. Mike gave an update of this resort stating they hope this will be a 4-season resort with winter activities such as skiing and spring/summer activities such as mountain biking and hiking. They expect to see over one billion dollars in economic development coming from this resort within the first few years. Mike indicated this resort will draw a 'new crowd' of skiers and it will also have amenities that other resorts do not have such as lodging and runs for beginner skiers. Discussion included the presented market analysis and demand for services that take place with this type of resort. They are currently building a new home which will be for public showing and they will encourage log or natural wood construction. They expect a 2,200 home build out, but anticipate only 40 homes per year to be built.

They are currently looking into a socio/economic study and would like to see an extension of the public comment of the draft plan of the Forest Service so this study can be included, as it will be hard data rather than 'emotion'. The current draft plan by the Forest Service does not include a recreational development on the Carlton Ridge, although the previous forest plans included some type of recreation on that ridge. Both Jim and Mike indicated they would like to see the public comment period extended so members of the public can comment on their proposal with the hard data they hope to provide in their study. The final plan is suppose to be completed by the first of the year.

Glenda stated many citizens call the Commissioners Office asking what the status of the resort is. She asked if the final plan did not allow for recreation on the public land, would the resort continue with their plan? Mike stated if the 'entitlements' do not occur, then the resort will be private. However, if recreation is allowed on that north face of Carlton Ridge, then the resort will be a public resort.

It was agreed that Mike will contact the Commissioners with more information as the summer progresses. Everyone agreed that although the resort is within Missoula County, the economic impacts both positive for employment etc., and economic impacts for growth on Florence which is in Ravalli County will need to be addressed.